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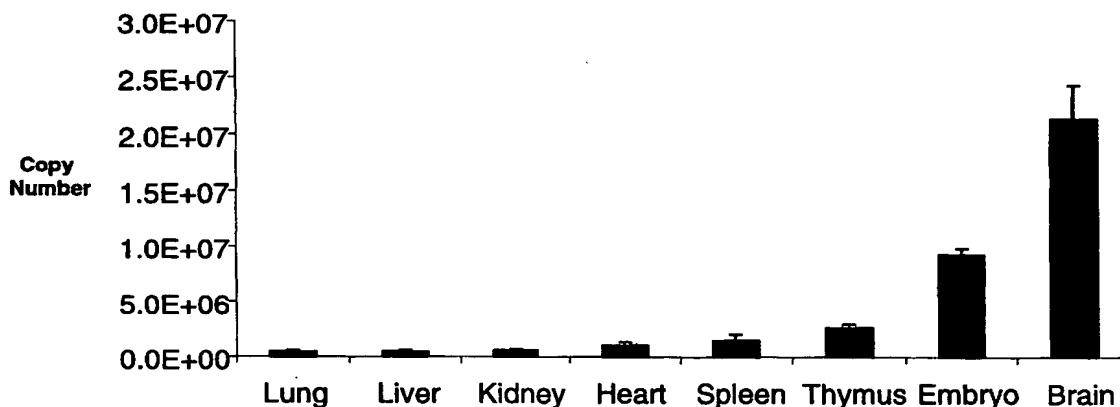
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(54) Title: ABSOLUTE QUANTITATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS BY RT-PCR



(57) Abstract: A method for obtaining a cRNA for use in generating calibration data, e.g., a standard curve, for absolute quantitation of RNA by RT-PCR is disclosed. The method includes the steps of: providing a synthetic oligonucleotide comprising an amplicon, a promoter sequence located 3' relative to the amplicon; synthesizing complementary RNA (cRNA) by in vitro transcription of the synthetic oligonucleotide; quantitatively assaying the cRNA by an independent method; and generating calibration data using a known quantity of the cRNA.

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